

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 7, line 27 to page 8, line 21 as follows:

As shown in Figs. 4A to 4D, the nosepiece 22 or shield can be formed as a truncated pyramid or pyramid frustum, from 1/4-inch thickness acrylic sheet material, assembled so as to have a hollow interior, a window opening 50 at the narrow distal end and a wide opening 52 at the base or proximal end. There are lateral slots 54 in the top and bottom walls near the proximal end that mate with engaging ridges within a seating recess at the distal face 30 of the scanner. A thin glass plate 58 that serves as a dust barrier window is positioned at the distal window opening 50. This transparent plate 58 is transparent with respect to the black-light illumination and also to the visible light produced by the phosphorescent bar coded symbols. The window plate 58 is oriented at a tilt, i.e., non-right angle, with respect to the optic axis 60, so that illumination does not reflect directly back towards the lens 40 and imager 38. The nosepiece 22 of this embodiment is about two inches in length, one inch thick, and one-and-three-quarters inches wide at its proximal end. The distal window opening 50 is preferably about one-half inch by three-quarters inch, so that the 3-mm by 3-mm symbol 44, or any of a variety of larger or smaller symbols or somewhat larger ones, can be viewed through it. The actual dimensions of the window opening are not critical. The window opening 50 accommodates a field of view of 0.55 inches (14 mm) square. The acrylic material is preferably coated with a black (opaque) material on the outside surface, although it is possible that the acrylic can be made up as opaque material. The shield or nosepiece 22 serves as a guide for the illumination so that when the target, i.e., symbol 44, is properly positioned at the tip or window opening 50, the target can be properly illuminated and scanned. The scanner 20 has a sensitivity adapted for use in ambient conditions from darkness up to 100 lux. The codes associated with the bar coded symbols can be Data Matrix, Code 39, Code 128, Codabar, I-2of5, UPC or other popular codes. The scanner 20 has a power requirement of only 4 to 9 volts DC, with a current draw (average) of only 175 mA.